

SEP OCT 1988

MONTANA '89er

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
MONTANA CENTENNIAL COMMISSION AND OFFICE

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CASCADE COUNTY 89ers TO CO-HOST AFFILIATES CONFERENCE

September 24, 1988



Montana Historical Society

Graham & Ross, Coal delivery truck, c. 1917, Great Falls

The Montana Centennial Office and Commission is conducting a Centennial organizing conference September 24, 1988 in Great Falls to bring together Centennial affiliates and project and product promoters for the first time. State Centennial officials will be assisted by the Cascade County Eighty-Niners.

The all-day conference at the Heritage Inn will open at 9:00 a.m. with a welcome from Lt. Gov. Gordon McOmber.

9:15 - 10:15	Roll Call of Affiliates
10:15 - 10:30	Centennial Office Update— Lt. Gov. McOmber
10:40 - 12:00	Panel—Organizing Tips (Moderator - Norma Ashby, Cascade County) Cascade County '89ers—Norma Ashby Beartooth '89ers—Valerie Peters Silver Bow '89ers—Janet Norman
12:00 - 1:30	Lunch Break — Vendor Fair viewing
1:30 - 3:00	Panel—Events/Projects: Ways to Get Involved Locally (Moderator - Marilyn Frazier, Centennial Commissioner, Great Falls) Local Postage Cancellations— Dick Bauman, Postmaster, Deer Lodge Centennial Youth Ambassador H. S. Exchange Program— Bob Henkel, Sage Advertising, Centennial Historical Sites Program— Marcella Sherfy/Pat Rick, Historic Preservation Office The Official Centennial Parade— Jeff Cuniff Great Centennial Cattle Drive—Latigo Rep. Statehood Admission Day Birthday Party— Lt. Gov. McOmber, Helena Mayor Russ Ritter, Penny Copps
3:10 - 4:00	Panel—Fund Raising Tips (Moderator, Ron Clark, Helena) Grants—Dot Walther Corporate Sponsors—Barbara Ranf, U.S. West Vendors—Jack Beatty, Centennial Logo Pin Project Organizers—Marlene Teague, Centennial Wagon Train
4:00 - 5:00	Open Forum Question and Answers— Wrapup— (Moderator, Lt. Gov. McOmber)
6:00 - 7:00	No-Host Social Hour
7:00 - 9:00	Dinner and Centennial Entertainers— C.M. Russell Museum Dick Martin, Cascade County 89ers, Emcee (Dinner sponsored by U.S. West)

See back page for Registration Information

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION MEETING 2

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VOL 3 NO. 5

SEPT/OCT 1988

PLEASE RETURN

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Montana's Statehood Centennial effort is forging steadily ahead. It was the legislature's intent, in preparing for the 1989 birthday party, that there be involvement by Montanans in every part of the state to plan and participate in *their* Centennial. A decision was made not to fund it with a general fund appropriation; rather the Centennial Commission and Office was required to begin operations on a loan.

That loan has been used to set up the operation and has been repaid. You have responded beautifully to a "pay-as-you-go" effort. There are 89ers throughout the state, county and local affiliates or partners in 50 counties and applications are still coming in. A wide variety of exciting projects are on the drawing board and will become realities in the coming months.

To fund the Centennial, many Montanans have purchased the Centennial license plates and Centennial Acres. Dozens of Centennial products are available as mementos of Montana's special year and are already generating royalties to help pay for the party. With money raised so far, we're ready to begin awarding grants to the projects and celebrations needing assistance. We've just completed the time-consuming process of putting the necessary rules in place to govern the awarding of Centennial grants.

The Centennial Office has accomplished a considerable number of the management chores necessary for successfully continuing with the celebration. Through our public relations firm, Exclamation Point, we will soon offer Montana's radio and television stations public service messages heralding the big year-long party and shortly will offer an attractive catalog of Centennial products. We've completed the computer program to keep track of royalties earned. We're right on track. I'm convinced that the Centennial will be a memorable event in every part of our state!

In closing, I'd like to pay tribute to three members of our staff who are moving on to other challenges. Ellen Meloy, who edited the 89er, had a chance to

greatly expand her opportunities through her ongoing free-lance writing. The Centennial's longest-serving staffer, who did everything superbly, Barb Harris, left us when her husband, Tom, retired. They now plan a "round the world" tour. The Centennial's director, Tom Daubert, whom many of you have had the privilege of working with, is leaving his post to return to his public relations firm. We're going to miss all three and we wish them the very best. I'll introduce their replacements in the next issue.



Lt. Governor Gordon McOmber
Chairman of the Centennial Commission



Grant Applications Before Commission in September

The initial deadline for receiving grant applications was August 31, 1988. Applications received by that date will be considered by the commission at their September 23 meeting in Great Falls.

Only sanctioned Centennial events, affiliates and projects are eligible for grants before final approval by the Lt. Governor.

Applications will be reviewed on a quarterly basis, said Dot Walther, who handles Centennial licensing and sanctioning in the Centennial Office.

In the future, grant applications must be received in the Office by the following dates to be reviewed and considered by the Centennial Commission at their next regular meeting.

Deadlines for applications to be received in Helena will be:

November 10, 1988

February 10, 1989

May 10, 1989

August 10, 1989

November 10, 1989

Please write the Centennial Office for a grant application form and instructions. If after receiving the form you have questions feel free to call the Office for additional information.

MONTANA CENTENNIAL COMMISSION & OFFICE

COMMISSION

Lt. Gov. Gordon McOmber, *Chairman of the Centennial Commission*

Patricia DeVries, *Polson*

Nancy Y. Dumont, *Wolf Point*

Marilyn Frazier, *Great Falls*

Frank Haswell, *Helena*

James Haughey, *Billings*

David Johns, *Butte*

Robert Kelly, *Missoula*

Wilbur Werner, *Cut Bank*

Kay Hardin Hansen, *Editor*

The bimonthly *Eighty-Niner* presents news and views in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Montana's statehood in 1889. For information, call 444-1989.

P.O. BOX 1989, CAPITOL STATION, HELENA, MT 59620

CENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

When they circled the wagons in Morine Anderson's farm yard August 17, 1988, it was like a page from the past.

Seventeen covered wagons, a herd of cows and calves, supply wagons, cowboys, buggies and children having the time of their lives.

And all because **Fallon County** Centennial planners, headed by Del Kenitzer, decided to have an old-fashioned cattle drive this year AND next.

The 35-mile route, over gently rolling Eastern Montana prairie land, enabled the train to leave Baker the morning of August 17 and arrive in Ekalaka the morning of August 20 in time for the Saturday All-Fallon County Fair Parade.

The first night out the train bedded down at Frank Mehling's place near Medicine Rocks State Park. The Ekalaka Fiddlers and cowboy ballad singer Corky Harkins, among others, entertained after a beef barbecue.

Pitchfork fondue and an old-time fiddlers dance was part of the celebration the second night when the drive reached Willard.

It was the kind of thing memories are made of.

A growing number of events and ideas are coming in weekly, said Karen Boehler, chairman of the **MonDak 89'ers**.

"Our schools are starting off with Centennial programs," she said. Other events on the horizon include celebration of the 100-year-history of the Sidney post office in October; a November 8 political party get-together to observe the official start of the state Centennial and election; and a December ethnic Centennial Christmas party by the MonDak Heritage Center do-cent. Also, the MonDak Historical and Arts Society is hard at work on a history of families and homesteading in Sidney from pre-history to the 1980's.

In Miles City a Montana Centennial Veteran's Day program will kick-off at 11:00 a.m. at the Pine Hills School Gymnasium, November 11.

Velva Klein, of the Miles City Veteran's Hospital, said other events that day include opening of a western art exhibit by Raymond "Padre" Johnson, Cody, Wyoming and Ben Steele, Billings; a Centennial style show at the Eagles Club . . . over 400 are expected, said style show chair Ella Mae Damm . . . and a big Centennial banquet and ball at the Miles City Community College that evening. Some of the entertainment will include the Grizzly Peek-A-Boos, the Montana State Centennial Can-Can dancers from Red Lodge.

"We have new volunteers, wonderful enthusiasm and we are very solid in our commitment to this years Nordicfest and the Centennial year," said Lyla Fields, coordinator.

The festival began four years ago in the Kootenai River Valley to preserve Scandinavian heritage and culture in the area. Fields said "We are the county with the largest license plate number, 56, and one of the least populated, around 18,000, but our heritage is strictly 100 per cent Montana and United States based."

Nordicfest was September 15-17 in **Libby** followed by the International Little Fjord Horse show. Judges from Norway and Sweden judged the 50 Little Fjord horses entered in the competition.



The 35-mile Ekalaka to Baker wagon train included 17 covered wagons, 35 head cows and calves and three lead steers, 98 horses and 135 people. Photo by Debbie Manolovits, Fallon County Times.



Primitive ranch living, Miles City



Sawmill west of Choteau

by Neil J. Lynch

The Election at Precinct 34

In all the annals regarding elections one of the strangest events took place in Butte, Montana where the voting in a single precinct had repercussions that would be felt as far as the U.S. Congress. The contest over the votes of Precinct 34 of Silver Bow County resulted in a complete stalemate in the first legislative assembly to the extent that no laws, appropriations or revenue measures were passed through the entire 90 day session. In fact Montana had no legislative enactments for its first 15 months of existence.

The year was 1889 and the U.S. Congress had passed enabling legislation which would allow Montana to become a state. All that was required for statehood was a formal election for approval of the constitution and the election of state officials. It was a foregone conclusion that the new constitution would be ratified. The real contest developed in the legislative races because at that time the legislature elected members to the U.S. Senate. The results of such election could have an effect on the conservative-liberal balance in the U.S. Senate. The Republican National Committee actually helped finance certain legislative candidates. However, no one ever dreamed that Silver Bow County Precinct No. 34 would determine the entire matter.

Precinct 34 was located atop the Continental Divide at the construction site of Homestake Tunnel on the Northern Pacific Railroad.

The N.P. was building its branch line between Butte and Logan. A contractor employing 175 men was digging Homestake tunnel. Precinct 34 was created as polling place for these workmen. It provided a favorable atmosphere for election corruption.

As a result of the election, the whole number of votes cast in Precinct 34 was 174 — 171 Democrat and 3 Republican. The law required that the names of the voters be written in the poll book in the order in which they voted; mysteriously it was done alphabetically. In other words, the A's were the first to vote and the last were the Z's. Election fraud charges were made by the Republicans that voters were told to vote Democrat or face dismissal from their jobs. Additionally, they charged that the ballots had not been sent to the courthouse by mail as required by law, that there were only 3 Republican votes, but 7 electors were willing to state under oath that they voted Republican, that there were more votes tabulated for some candidates than the

total vote cast in the Precinct and, that the votes were counted in a locked room from which the public was barred. The Democrats countered the returns were not mailed because there was no Post Office at Homestake and that the votes were counted in a different room than the polling place because it was cold and they had no idea the doors were locked.

The ironic fact was that the votes of Precinct 34 would determine the party control of the entire Silver Bow House of Representatives delegation. If the votes of Precinct 34 were counted, 5 representatives would be Democrat and vice versa if not counted. The Republican dominated County Board of Canvassers instructed the County Clerk to issue certificates of election to the 5 Republicans as successful candidates to the House thus, rejecting the votes of Precinct 34. However, the Democratic County Clerk refused to do so. When the issue reached the Republican controlled Territorial Board of Canvassers, they rejected the

votes of Precinct 34 and declared the five Republicans elected to the contested seats. Silver Bow County elected 10 representatives but 5 were uncontested.

"The Legislature is a miner in diggers, a rancher in cowboy boots, a farmer with chaff in his hair, a doctor, a lawyer, and an Indian . . . in short, everything that is Montana."

However, matters were going from bad to worse when one considers what was happening in Helena. The 16 member Senate was evenly divided between both parties; 8 Democrats and 8 Republicans. Additionally, depending on whether the 5 contested House seats from Silver Bow County went Democrat or Republican, the majority control of the entire House of Representatives determined whether the votes from Precinct 34 were counted or not. Therefore, whichever party captured the 5 contested House seats from Silver Bow County would elect the two U.S. Senators.

In order to add to the problem, the Democratic Clerk in Silver Bow County certified the Democrats. So Silver Bow County sent 15 men to Helena for 10 House seats. It did not take Democrat Governor Toole long to decide what to do. His instruction provided that only the Democrats from Silver Bow County were to be allowed into the temporary



West side of Main Street, from Granite to Broadway

State House. Upon hearing this, the entire Republican side of the aisle in the House left the Chambers and adjourned to the Iron Hall House and subsequently convened at the Granite Block where it remained the remainder of the 90 day legislative session. Both parties maintained separate House of Representatives during the entire session. Though this seems bad, what happened in the Senate was worse.

The 8 Democratic Senators refused to attend any sessions. After a month the Republicans finally instructed the Sergeant-at-Arms to subpoena the Democrats. Thinking they could still maintain the stalemate the Democrats came voluntarily. However, by parliamentary maneuver and with the aid of the Republican Lt. Governor, the Republicans organized the senate and were ready to transact business. This caught the Democrats by surprise, so by evening all headed for the State borders. The next day, the Republicans ordered the Sergeant-at-Arms to arrest the Democrats and bring them back to Helena under arms. The only one who could be caught was the Senator from Dawson County. On his return to the Senate chambers, he promised he would not attempt to run again. However, a politician's word did not mean much more then than now, and he was in Idaho the next morning. Thus, the Senate was not able to act on any legislation for the remainder of the session due to the lack of a quorum. However,

this did not prevent the legislature from acting as a joint body for the election of a U.S. Senator.

Prior to their exodus from Montana, the Democratic portion of the legislature elected W.A. Clark and Martin Maginnis to the U.S. Senate. Their Republican counterparts held their own election and named W.F. Sanders and T.C. Powers. Since the U.S. Congress was Republican controlled, Sanders and Powers were subsequently seated.

The Constitution provided members of the House would hold office until 1892, or through the Second Legislative Assembly. However, one-half of the Senate would be up for election prior to that time. In that election, the Democrats gained control of the Senate. However, when the House convened in January of 1891, the same idiocy prevailed and the two parties met in separate quarters. Finally after 23 days, selfishness gave way to statesmanship and a compromise was reached and 3 of the contested seats in Silver Bow were given to the Republicans and 2 to the Democrats. Thus, after nearly 15 months of existence, Montana was finally able to enact legislation and appropriate money for the operations of government.

After the completion of the Homestake Tunnel, Precinct 34 was abandoned and no other election was held at that spot again. This was probably one of the more fortunate events that happened to the new state of Montana.

Neil J. Lynch, D-Butte, served in the Senate in 1969-71-73-74-75 and was Senate Majority Leader in 1973-74-75. This article is reprinted with permission, from his book "*Montana's Legislature Through the Years*," published in 1977.

Centennial Catalog and Media Campaign Due for Release in September

THE CENTENNIAL PRODUCTS CATALOG should be in the hands of vendors and buyers by the end of September.

A product of Exclamation Point, a Billings ad agency, the catalog includes 75 ads of sanctioned Centennial products, many in color.

Catalog shoppers can choose from hand crafted knives to balloons, pencils, dolls, saddles, posters, salad dressing, wind socks, note cards, a Montana trivia puzzle, check blanks and porcelain plates to name a few. Also Centennial license plates, Centennial Acres, state warrants, capitol granite and pins are included.

Although this will be the only official catalog authorized by the Centennial Commission and Office, new vendors are encouraged to continue to apply through the Helena office for sanctioning.

Also ready for distribution this month will be an all media "State of Excitement" campaign. Focal point of the campaign is a television public service announcement featuring a variety of Montana locations and citizens and an original song by the Gairrett Brothers, a Montana band.

Newspaper, radio and billboard materials are also included in the campaign designed by Exclamation Point of Billings.

Watch for the campaign in your hometown media!!!!



CENTENNIAL STICKERS

A supply of smaller Centennial stickers are now available at \$8.00 per roll of 500. Place your order for 3/4" x 1 1/4" stickers with:

Colorworld
P.O. Box 1088
Bozeman, MT 59715

Montana Homeland Opens

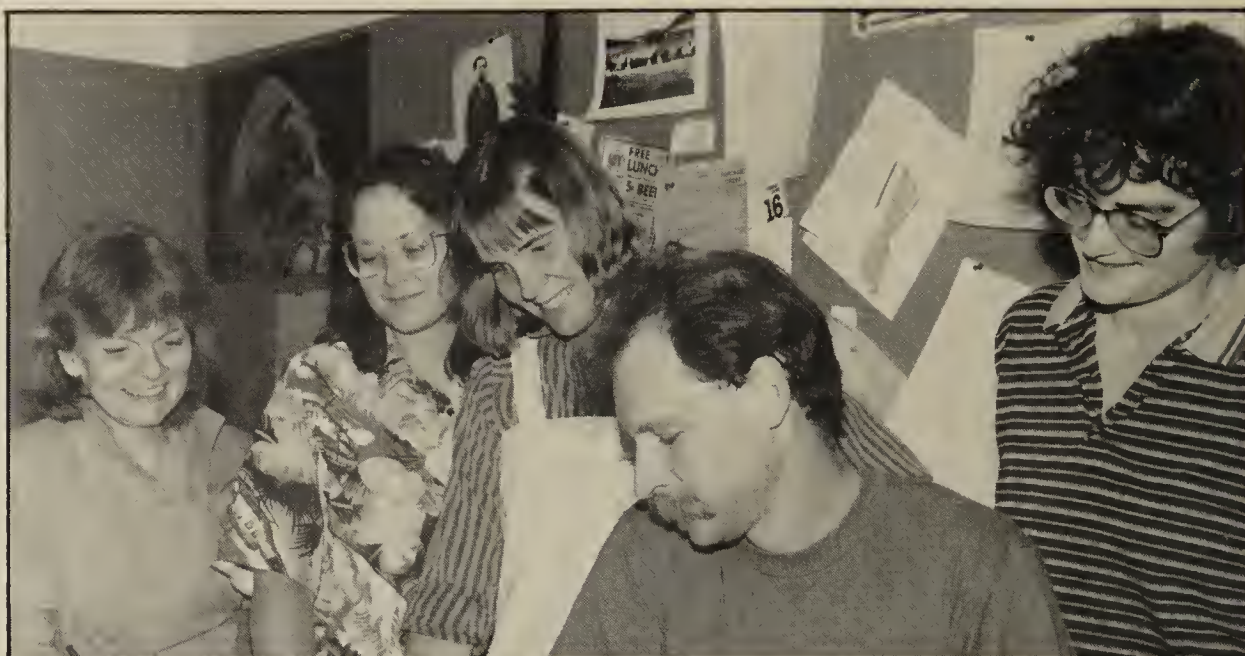
The Montana Historical Society, this month, proudly presented its Centennial gift to Montana with the opening of the Montana Homeland Exhibit...culminating a three-year effort by society staff and volunteers.

The numbers are impressive.

Over 3,000 artifacts are on display compared to only 200 in the past. The new exhibit occupies 9,470 square feet, nearly double the former exhibit area of 4,800 square feet. Over 1,500 identifying labels and 300 interpretive labels are included. And, the price tag? About \$600,000 including state funds and private donations.

Raising funds for Montana Homeland was the primary responsibility of MHS Director Robert Archibald. He said, "There is no question Montanans have a deep affection for and understanding of the value of the past. It's a continuum and it is our memory and we need it." Exhibit funding came from the 12,000 members of the Historical Society, state support and contributions from corporate donors.

Thousands of artifacts are presented in five sections: **Prehistory**, from the last Ice Age to about 1750, when native peoples began to feel the influence of whites through the acquisition of horses and guns; **Indian Montana**, from 1750 to the late 1870's; **White Settlement**, from the first gold strikes of the 1850's to the arrival of the railroad in 1883; **Industrial Montana**, from the railroads to the beginning of WWI; and **Hard Times and Change**, from WWI through the end of WWII. A concluding section, **Arts and Spirit**, will present a changing selection of visual art depicting Montana people, places and events.

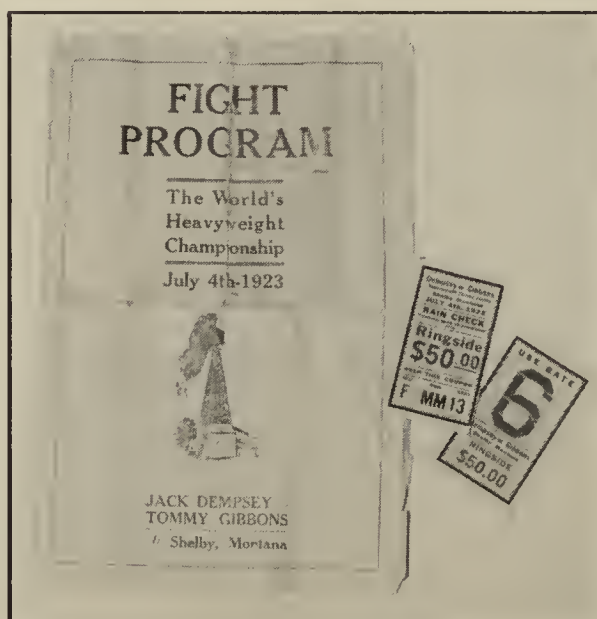


Photos by Kay Hansen

The core team; Left: Curators Jennifer Jeffries Thompson, Education; Susan Near, Collections; Chere Jiusto, History; Geoff Wyatt, Exhibit Designer and Helen Alten, Conservator. Not shown, Steve Germann, Museum Administrator.



Wall bracket carved by Anthony Ravalli, S.J., 1836-1864



Dempsey-Gibbons heavyweight fight tickets and program. Shelby, 1912.



Fannie Sperry Steele, World Champion Bucking Horse saddle, 1914.

CENTENNIAL COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

Meeting

September 23—Great Falls
October 24—Missoula

For information,
call the Centennial Office
at 444-1989.

The State is Having a Party With Fireworks, Festivals and Song

Licenses have recently been signed for the following projects and products.

Dutton Fun Day celebration set for July 7-9, 1989; featuring breakfast, parades, car show, carnival and fireworks.

Vigilante Players, Dept. of Media and Theatre Arts, MSU; musical comedy "Rewinding Montana," to be performed in rural and urban communities beginning Jan. 1989.

Central Montana Gem & Mineral Society State Show, June 3-4, 1989, in Lewistown.

Treasure Trails Girl Scout Council, Billings: 22" x 22" bandana carrying the Centennial and Girl Scout logo.

Bob and Marge Hoene, Helena: A group of Montanans representing the Montana Centennial at the 1989 Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

MT Assoc. for Health, P.E., Recreation and Dance, Clancy: Sponsors of the March 2-4, 1989 Montana Centennial Rendezvous for jump rope demonstration teams in Helena.

The 6th Annual National Mule Marathon and Concert, Arlee, July 1, 1989.

Fairview Annual Old Timers Festival and Reunion, Fairview, set for July 16, 1988 and July 15, 1989.

Hardin Area 89er's, Hardin: Scheduling events including Little Big Horn Days, Country Fun Weekend, Big Horn County Youth Fair, 4th of July Celebration and Rendezvous, White Man Meets Indian.

Vern Miller, Billings: Song titled "Montana Morning"

Shining Mountain Collectibles, Kalispell: A limited edition "gilded" plate with gold border and blue rim.

Rick Smith, Billings: Production and marketing of a series of Centennial dolls, Cowboy and George Custer.

Balloons, Etc., Helena: Preprinted 11" balloons.

Patrick Joseph Clark, Missoula: A Montana Centennial Poster featuring a photograph of Glacier National Parks, "Garden Wall" by Patrick Clark.

Sticky Spoon Confectioners, Gallatin Gateway: Hard candies and lollipops in a variety of flavors.

Treasure State Chevy Dealers Assoc., Helena: Chevrolet's Official Montana Centennial vehicle, a 4x4 pickup without prejudice to the ability of the Office to sanction other vehicles.

Mountain Design, Red Lodge: A damascus bowie knife with Montana jade handle, gold plated brass guard, limited edition of 30.

Centennial '89, Inc., Ron Clark, Helena: 1/2 inch Montana Centennial lapel pin. Also, lucite embedements, belt buckles and bolo or string ties using sanctioned bronze and silver coins.

Blaketch, Helena: Etching of the Centennial Logo on automobile glass.

Quality Promotional Products, Helena: Pro wood-cased round pencils imprinted with Centennial logo, and, latex balloons imprinted with Centennial logo.

Wild Winds Leathercraft, Helena: Handcrafted calfskin leather checkbook covers.

Don and Mary Hurley, Stevensville: A full-color poster featuring "The Centennial Quilt" and a book of black and white photos of each county block.

Montana Marble, Belt: Cultured marble gift items including keychains, buckles, wall plaques, and slabs.

Mountain View Leather, Great Falls: Handcarved leather products including check book covers, clocks, rifle scabbards, belts and pictorials.

Bowman's Wilson Boot Co., Livingston: Centennial boot, the Wilson Yellowstone, available in limited numbers.

Century Marketing, Conner: "Rag" type and clothes pin dolls that look like Centennial Sal and Montana Mike, Centennial collectors silver finish spoon with cloisonne emblem. Also, key tags with acrylic, metal enamel and brass or pewter finish. Sunglasses with state Centennial lapel pin attached to frame.

Gale R. Drewry, Lambert: A cassette tape of songs written by applicant titled "From Heaven to You" and containing the song "I Love Montana."

Symphony Guild, Missoula: A 250 page cookbook titled "The Fine Art of Cooking."

*This newsletter was
produced with the
assistance of Montana's
ten Apple dealers.*



J.B. Kempton's Ranch, three miles south of Terry, July 11, 1904. Note mare herd in corral.



Montana Statehood Centennial Office
P.O. Box 1989, Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620



Centennial Plates are a proclamation of our 100th anniversary, as well as a collector's item. This special edition will never be issued again. Proceeds from the sales of the plates help support the 1989 celebration.

If you haven't put Centennial plates on your vehicle, it's time to join the birthday party. The plates cost \$19.89, plus a county handling fee. They are available at your county treasurer's office.

The following communities have been added to the list of official partners in the 1989 celebration by the Centennial Office and Commission.

Terry Chamber
of Commerce
P.O. Box 6
Terry, MT 59349

Toole County Centennial
Celebration
P.O. Box 222
Sweetgrass, MT 59484

Fergus County '89er's
P.O. Box 799
Lewistown, MT 59457

MonDak 89'ers
P.O. Box 1590
Sidney, MT 59270

Although almost all Montana counties now have Centennial affiliates a few have still not been heard from. They include: Broadwater, Judith Basin,

Chouteau, Jefferson, Petroleum, Phillips and Valley. We hope to hear from them soon.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

There will be no charge for lunch and dinner for registration forms received by Sept. 15. Forms received after Sept. 15 will be assessed a \$15 registration fee if space permits late entries. Forms and questions should be directed to:

Cascade County 89ers
ATTN: Mary Smith,
Secretary

Cascade County
Court House
325 2nd Avenue N.
Drawer 1989
Great Falls, MT 59401
761-7600, Ext. 265

Sara Parker
State Librarian, MT State Library
Library/Justice Building
DEADHEAD